

THIS HANUKKAH—IN HONOR OF
ALL OUR ARMED FORCES AND
THEIR FAMILIES THIS HANUK-
KAH

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a poetic tribute in honor of our magnificent Armed Forces and their splendid families this Hanukkah, and holiday season. And for all of the ones who are so separated by the miles so very far across the shores. Our hearts, especially go out to all of those families who have lost their greatest loves of all, in the defense of our Nation. And to all of those recovering from the grave wounds of war we pray for their speedy recovery. Bless them all! I ask that this poem penned by Albert Caswell be placed in the RECORD in honor of them as follows:

THIS HANUKKAH

This Hanukkah . . .
As the family gathers round . . .
All in This Festival of Lights to be found . . .
All in this time of remembrance, as described in the Talmud of long . . . long ago . . .
With eight days of light and remembrance, of events so miraculous so . . .
As the children dance with songs of joy, and the love of your family grows . . .
Reciting Hallel prayer, and the games, as the Dreidels spin there so . . .
We should also remember, this other miracle of all of those . . .
THE MIRACLE OF OUR ARMED FORCES, SELFLESSNESS SO!
Of All Those families! Those Patriots of Peace, of all of these . . .
The ones, who will not together be . . .
Who upon battlefields of honor fight . . .
So far away from our Country Tis of Thee, on this night . . .
Men and Women of honor bright, who for all of us so carry on that fight . . .
Who live with such heartache and death, as on each new day our lives they bless . . .
And all of those ones, whose greatest of all loves . . . now lie in soft quiet graves . . .
Precious Daughters and Sons, Husbands and Wives . . .
Brother and Sisters, Fathers and Mothers who gave . . .
The greatest of gifts, That Last Full Measure . . . as did they!
Whose loved ones pain, can not be healed by time . . . nor so divided this day . . .
As on this joist holiday season, they sit with tears in eyes do they . . .
With one less place at the dinner table set . . . with all of this grieving so yet!
And all of those who have come home, without arms and legs . . .
Inspiring us with their courage they!
Blessing us all, but with all those fine gifts of selflessness conveyed!
Making us all so see, just how magnificent and inspiring a heart can be!
And all of those who have loved ones, far across the shores . . .
As each new day, but brings to them such great worry so for sure . . .
But, waiting . . . but waiting for, that dreaded knock on the door . . .
That phone call, that they so now pray not for . . .
Quiet Heroes, one and all!

Watching them from Heaven, The Angel's tear drops fall . . .
Lord God, Lord God . . . Bless Them . . . Bless Them All!
For So Many, So Few Have But Paid The Cost!
So bore the burden, so carry that cross! That cross of war!
This Hanukkah, as you hold your families tight . . . and all seems so very right . . .
As you see all those smiles on your children's faces, as these sacred nights races . . .
Give thanks, Give praise . . . as upon your knees you pray . . .
For all of those families, whose sacrifice . . . the blessings of freedom, they gave!
On This Hanukkah, in this The Kindling . . . as each new candle you light . . .
Eight days of prayer and gratitude, in this joist Festival of Lights . . .
A time for families to celebrate, to remember how miracles can burn so bright . . .
Remembering too, our Armed Forces miracles of sacrifice . . .
This Hanukkah!

THE SKYLINE SPARTANS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a high school football program located in my District—the 8th of Washington—that won the 4A State title on Saturday, December 5, their third in a row.

The Skyline Spartans (12–2), located in Sammamish, Washington—and competing in the KingCo 4A League, Crest Division—defeated the Ferris Saxons, 45–21 at the Tacoma Dome to win the 2009 State 4A Championship. The win marked the third straight State title win for Skyline. I offer my congratulations to the entire team and team captains Anthony De Matteo, Cooper Pelluer, Jake Heaps, Jase Butorac and Tommy Aarts.

I also want to thank head coach Mat Taylor and his assistant coaches, Steve Chmiel, Tom Collins, Jeff Johnson, Bruce Hasson, Kyle Snell, Ryan Thorsen, Brett VanVoorhis and Evan Flay for providing wonderful examples for their players and dedicating many hours to the teaching and training of a group of talented young athletes. Our communities and our young people are better off with the influence you provide. Thank you for your service.

Congratulations and thanks also go out to Principal Lisa Hechtman, Athletic Director Kevin Rohrich and all the teachers at Skyline. Enjoy another football championship and know that your community, your students and your student-athletes all appreciate your efforts and sacrifices. Go Spartans!

IN HONOR OF MS. KAREN NESBIT

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Ms. Karen Nesbit of Franklin,

Wisconsin. Ms. Nesbit was recently awarded the 2008 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Program recognizes outstanding teachers across the country for their contributions to the academic and personal development of students in science and mathematics.

Ms. Nesbit has been an educator for 23 years. She has taught in the Franklin Public School District since 1990, and currently teaches first grade at Pleasant View Elementary School. The education of our youth is very important to the continued success of our communities and our country. It is through the dedication of teachers such as Ms. Nesbit that students and are well-equipped with the knowledge and skills they need for their future.

On behalf of those I represent in the 1st District of Wisconsin, I extend my gratitude and congratulations to Ms. Karen Nesbit.

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE 787 DREAMLINER

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Boeing Co. on their first flight of the 787 Dreamliner. This successful flight marks an important milestone in the development of the 787 Dreamliner, and represents the collective efforts and hard work of everyone at the Boeing Company, particularly the dedicated Boeing employees who live in my district. The 787 Dreamliner is airplane that is not only much more efficient than any other airplane on the market, but also represents a new generation of technologically advanced commercial airplanes that will change the future of commercial aviation.

SPIRIT OF TOURISM AWARDS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to several of West Virginia's most dedicated and hardworking individuals. On December 1, 2009, several individuals were honored for their role in enhancing tourism to Greenbrier County when the Greenbrier County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) presented their fourth annual Spirit of Tourism Awards.

The Greenbrier County CVB presented four awards to honor people who have made a difference in the local economy through enhancing local tourism. The Spirit of Tourism Awards recognize residents that have made a significant impact on the tourism industry in the areas of tourism development, volunteerism, securing a convention or meeting to the area, and excelling at partnering with the Greenbrier County CVB.

This year's Greenbrier Award recipient was awarded to Jim Justice for his hard work and dedication since his purchase of 'The Greenbrier' earlier this year. Mr. Justice has